

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 199567

EXDIS - TOSEC 132

FOLLOWING GENEVA 5318 SENT ACTION STATE INFO DOD RPT TO
YOU QUOTE

S E C R E T SALT TWO GENEVA 5318

EXDIS/SALT

SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O. 11652: XGDS 1

TAGS: PARM

SUBJ: COMMENTS ON OCT 5 MEETING (SALT TWO - 295)

1. SEMENOV DEVOTED HIS STATEMENT AT TODAY'S MEETING TO A LONG AND
VERY HARD-LINE STATEMENT ON FBS, CHARACTERIZING IT AS "A MAJOR AND
URGENT QUESTION THAT CANNOT BE DISREGARDED." IN SUBSEQUENT
PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS, ALL MEMBERS OF SOVDEL ALSO LAID STRESS ON
ISSUE, SEMENOV SAYING TO ME THAT "THE SOVIET PEOPLE, THE SOVIET
PARLIAMENT AND THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE ARE WELL AWARE OF THE
STRATEGIC SITUATION IN THIS REGARD" AND WOULD NOT PERMIT THE
SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO ENTER INTO ANY AGREEMENT THAT DID NOT
RECOGNIZE THE FACTS IN THIS SITUATION AND DID NOT PROVIDE FOR
EQUAL SECURITY AND NO UNILATERAL ADVANTAGE. SHCHUKIN IN HIS
TALK WITH NITZE SAID THAT THEIR INSTRUCTIONS ARE "FULL" OF STRICTURES
ON THIS SUBJECT. SEMENOV PROPOSED WITHDRAWAL OF FORWARD SUBMARINE

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BASES

AND CARRIERS BY AN AGREED DATE, AND ALSO A "PHASED" RESOLUTION, WITH
FIFTY PERCENT WITHDRAWAL AND LIQUIDATION OF CORRESPONDING BASES
WITHIN FIVE

YEARS AFTER SIGNING OF PERMANENT AGREEMENT. (IT WILL BE NOTED THIS FORMULATION DIFFERS SOMEWHAT FROM PREVIOUS FORMULATIONS AND ALSO SPECIFIES SPECIFIC TIME LIMIT.)

2. SEMENOV'S PRESENTATION INCLUDED GRAPHIC CHART INVOLVING "COUNTRY A AND COUNTRY B." I AND OTHERS IN THEIR PRIVATE TALKS POINTED OUT THAT HIS CHART DID NOT SHOW THOSE NON-CENTRAL SYSTEMS IN COUNTRY B, NOR THEIR NON-LIMITED SYSTEMS CAPABLE OF STRIKING US.

3. MY PRESENTATION SPECIFICALLY ATTACKED HIS ATTEMPT IN OCT 2 STATEMENT TO USE THE LANGUAGE OF ART VII OF THE INTERIM AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT THE CARRYING FORWARD OF THE ICBM AND SLBM NUMBERS FROM THE INTERIM AGREEMENT INTO THE PERMANENT AGREEMENT. ALSO USED NEW SOVIET ICBM PROGRAM AS ILLUSTRATION OF NEED FOR DIFFERENT PERMANENT AGREEMENT.

IN SEMENOV'S AD LIB RESPONSE AND SUBSEQUENTLY IN OTHER PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS, SOVDEL DENIED ALLEGING THAT ART VII REQUIRED CARRYING FORWARD SAME NUMBERS, BUT SAID IT WAS NOT PRECLUDED BY ART VII, AND RE-

AFFIRMED THAT SOVIET POSITION REMAINED THAT NUMBERS FROM THE INTERIM AGREEMENT SHOULD BE CARRIED FORWARD. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS THEY POINTED TO SLIGHT VARIATION IN PHRASING OF OCT 2 STATEMENT WITH RESPECT TO ICBMS AS COMPARED TO SLBMS -- SIGNIFICANCE OF WHICH APPEARED TO BE ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH POSITION THAT MODERNIZATION AND REPLACEMENT COULD INVOLVE DIGGING OF NEW SILOS AND NOT, AS IN PRESENT AGREEMENT, ONLY MODERNIZATION OF EXISTING SILOS. JOHNSON UNQUOTE RUSH

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